

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Working Documents

1982-1983

18 March 1983

DOCUMENT 1-1363/82/I

Report

drawn up on behalf of the Committee on Social Affairs
and Employment

- I. on the communication from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council on vocational training and new information technologies: new Community initiatives during the period 1983-1987 (Doc. 1-419/82 - COM(82) 296 final)
- II. on the draft resolution of the Council concerning training policies in the European Communities in the 1980s (Doc. 1-902/82 - COM(82) 637 final).

Rapporteur: Mrs Tove NIELSEN

PE 82.198/fin.

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

C O R R I G E N D U M

to the report by Mrs NIELSEN
on behalf of the Committee on Social Affairs and Employment
on vocational training and new information technologies
(Doc. 1-1363/82)

Motion for a resolution :

Delete paragraph 18.

- (a) By letter of 23 June 1982, the President of the Council of the European Communities requested the European Parliament to deliver an opinion, pursuant to Article 100 of the EEC Treaty, on the communication from the Commission on vocational training and new information technologies: new Community initiatives during the period 1983-1987 (COM(82) 296 final).

By letter of 15 November 1982, the President of the Council of the European Communities requested the European Parliament to deliver an opinion, pursuant to Article 100 of the EEC Treaty, on the draft resolution concerning vocational training policies in the European Communities in the 1980s (COM(82) 637 final).

On 5 July 1982 and 19 November 1982 respectively, the President of the European Parliament referred these proposals to the Committee on Social Affairs and Employment as the committee responsible and, in the case of the first proposal, to the Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs and the Committee on Youth, Culture, Education, Information and Sport for an opinion and, in the case of the second proposal, to the Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs, the Committee on Youth, Culture, Education, Information and Sport and the Committee of Inquiry into the Situation of Women in Europe for an opinion.

- (b) On 9 July 1982, the President of the European Parliament referred the motions for resolutions tabled by Mrs CHARZAT and others on vocational training for young people (Doc. 1-490/82) and on vocational training (Doc. 1-491/82) pursuant to Rule 47 of the Rules of Procedure to the Committee on Social Affairs and Employment as the committee responsible and, in the case of Doc. 1-490/82, to the Committee on Youth, Culture, Education, Information and Sport for an opinion.

On 13 September 1982, the President of the European Parliament referred the motion for a resolution tabled by Mrs THEOBALD-PAOLI and others on extended action by the Community in the new technologies sector (Doc. 1-501/82) pursuant to Rule 47 of the Rules of Procedure to the Committee on Social Affairs and Employment as the committee responsible and to the Committee on Energy and Research and the Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs for an opinion.

At its meeting of 13 July 1982, the Committee on Social Affairs and Employment appointed Mrs Tove NIELSEN rapporteur.

The Committee considered the Commission's proposals and the draft report at its meetings of 23 September 1982, 20 October 1982, 5 November 1982, 30 November 1982 and 25 February 1983. At the last meeting, the committee decided by ten votes to none and one abstention to recommend to Parliament that it approve the Commission's proposals with the following amendments.

The committee then adopted the motion for a resolution as a whole by ten votes to none with one abstention.

The following took part in the vote: Mr Papaefstratiou, chairman; Mrs Nielsen, rapporteur, Mr Chanterie, Ms. Clwyd, Mr Duport, Mr Eisma, Mr Estgen, Mr Ghergo, Mrs Maij-Weggen, Mr Patterson and Mr Tuckman.

The opinions of the Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs, the Committee on Youth, Culture, Education, Information and Sport, the Committee of Inquiry into the Situation of Women in Europe and of the Committee on Energy and Research are attached.

The final version of the report was submitted on 4 March 1983.

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The Committee on Social Affairs and Employment hereby submits to the European Parliament the following amendments to the Commission's proposal and motion for a resolution together with explanatory statement:

I. Communication from the Commission on vocational training and new information technologies: New Community initiatives during the period 1983-1987 (COM (82) 296 final)

Amendments tabled by the
Committee on Social Affairs and
Employment

unchanged

Text proposed by the Commission of the
European Communities

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community, and in particular Article 128 thereof

Having regard to the proposal from the Commission, ⁽¹⁾

Having regard to the opinion of the European Parliament, ⁽²⁾

Having regard to the opinion of the Economic and Social Committee, ⁽³⁾

Whereas the Council adopted, on 11 September 1979, a resolution regarding a Community action promoting micro-electronic technology ⁽⁴⁾ inviting the Commission to present concrete projects in the area of industrial policy and of the continuous training of technicians and engineers;

(1) COM (82) ... final of May 1982

(2)

(3)

(4) OJ C 231, 13 September 1979

Amendments tabled by the
Committee on Social Affairs and
Employment

unchanged

Text proposed by the Commission of the
European Communities

Whereas the Commission transmitted to the European Council, meeting in Dublin in November 1979, a Communication entitled "European Society faced with the challenge of new information technologies: a Community response " (1) ; whereas on this basis the European Council asked the Council to study a common strategy for the development of these technologies in Europe (2);

Whereas in the context of an overall medium - term strategy, economic recovery largely depends on innovation and it is therefore essential to reinforce production investment at Community level, including in the area of new information technology (3);

Whereas the new technology has an impact on employment and there is a need in this connection to ensure that both basic and continuing vocational training systems take into account the potential of new technologies in such a way as to supply the labour market with the necessary skilled manpower for the future;

-
- (1) COM (79) 658, 26 November 1979
 - (2) Bull. EC II-1979, joint 1.1.6
 - (3) COM (81) 344 final, 22 July 1981

Amendments tabled by the
Committee on Social Affairs and
Employment

unchanged

Text proposed by the Commission
of the European Communities

Whereas it is important to ensure a socially responsible approach to the control of new technology in a society that is experiencing radical and rapid economic, social and technological change; whereas in this regard a concerted approach is desirable between the social partners and public authorities in relation to the introduction of new information technologies into enterprises;

Whereas account has been taken of the deliberations of the Standing Committee on Employment in November 1981, on the basis of a Communication from the Commission concerning new information technologies and their social impact on employment, working conditions, education and vocational training (1);

Whereas the European Parliament in its Resolutions of 15 and 17 September 1981 on social policy (2) and on the repercussions of energy problems and technological developments on the level of employment (3) called for "greater efforts by the Community to promote forms of training which take account of the micro-electronic revolution".

(1) COM (81) 578 final, 12 October 1981 and
COM (81) 578 final/2 26 October 1981

(2) European Parliament PV 37 doc. PE 74.858
15 September 1981

(3) European Parliament PV 32, doc. PE 74.712
17 September 1981.

Amendments tabled by the Committee on
Social Affairs and Employment

unchanged

Text proposed by the Commission of the
European Communities

HEREBY ADOPTS THIS RESOLUTION:

I. General guidelines

Action in the vocational training field shall be undertaken to promote the progressive development of a common approach to the introduction of new technology, which is socially sensitive and responsible and at the same time fully responsive to economic and technical needs. This action shall be based on the following general guidelines:

Amendment No. 1 (PE 82.111/fin.)

- (i) - the provision of up-to-date training in order
- to be able to practise the acquired occupation in different enterprises and sectors and possibly carry out skilled work of a related nature after acquiring those skills which are lacking;
 - to be able to adapt to new work structures, production methods and technologies with the aim of maintaining professional qualifications;
 - to be able to participate in further training schemes to safeguard professional qualifications and mobility.

- (i) - the need to ensure a broadly-based approach to training which provides for acquisition by the individual of a wide range of specific skills so as to realise his or her full potential, facilitates greater vocational and professional mobility and contributes towards enabling workers to play a more active role in their work;

Amendments tabled by the Committee on Social
Affairs and Employment

Text proposed by the Commission of the
European Communities

Amendment No. 2 (PE 82.118/fin)

- (ii) - the provision of training in this field to be directed at the working population as a whole and the development of balanced systems of social and vocational preparation and training designed to familiarize young people and adults both with the applications of the new technologies and with their social consequences;

Amendment No. 3 (PE 82.118/fin.)

- (iii) - the need to take account of the specific training needs of staff in managerial positions in the context of the training programmes to be made more generally available. Greater promotion of further education facilities for instructors and managerial staff in new technologies and more frequent practical experience in industrial enterprises in which the technology is applied;

- (ii) - the development of provisions for training in this field to be directed at the working population as a whole, regardless of sex or age, or previous levels of education, so as to avoid polarisation of attitudes between specialists and other workers and the adult population generally;

- (iii)-the need to develop balanced systems of social and vocational preparation and training designed to familiarise young people and adults both with applications of the new technologies and with their social consequences;

- (iv)- the need to take account of the specific training needs of staff in managerial positions in the context of the training programmes to be made more generally available;

Amendments tabled by the Committee on
Social Affairs and Employment

Text proposed by the Commission of the
European Communities

Amendment No.4 (PE 82.118/fin.)

(iv) -the promotion of intensified
collaboration between enterprises
and schools locally, between
teachers and industry and between
management and labour in drawing
up training and further education
programmes;

(v) - the need to encourage intensified
collaboration between public authori-
ties and the social partners in design-
ing training programmes in this field
and in drawing upon all available
resources to this end;

Amendment No.5 (PE 82.118/fin)

(v) - the establishment of appropriate
fiscal, legal and financial out-
line conditions making it easier
for firms to release their employees
to attend courses of further edu-
cation, particularly for instruc-
tion in new technologies;

(vi) -the need to link measures in this
field with the provisions for facili-
tating further education and training
of workers;

unchanged

(vii)-the introduction of special efforts
to improve the employment prospects
of those who are unemployed especially
young people, by incorporating appro-
priate units of study regarding new
technology in their training programmes;
and

unchanged

(viii)- the pursuit of special efforts to
improve the quality and level of trai-
ning of personnel responsible for
setting up programmes for the social
and vocational preparation of adults
in this field.

Amendments tabled by the Committee on
Social Affairs and Employment

unchanged

Amendment No. 6 (PE 82.118/fin.)

- (i) - to enable small and medium-sized enterprises to modernize their manufacturing processes by applying new information technologies and to familiarize their staff, in particular those undergoing training, with these technologies;--

unchanged

unchanged

Text proposed by the Commission of
the European Communities

II. Action by Member States

In implementing their policies in the field of vocational training Member States shall give priority to the following areas of common concern:

- (i) - small and medium-sized enterprises which seek to modernise their production processes by the application of new information technology : their training needs and the implications for the planning of training provisions on the basis of consensus with all employees;
- (ii)- large scale enterprises in the services sector which are committed to the progressive introduction of automated techniques of administration and management (for instance in banking and retailing sectors) : the implications for enterprise-based training personnel policies and the scope for positive action towards employees whose skills become redundant;
- (iii)- unqualified unemployed young people who have little aptitude for more traditional forms of vocational training: the scope for using new information technologies as a learning tool to facilitate the acquisition of technological and other vocational skills;

Amendments tabled by the Committee on
Social Affairs and Employment

Text proposed by the Commission of the
European Communities

Amendment No.7 (PE 82.118/fin)

(iv) older skilled workers made redundant as a result of the restructuring of traditional manufacturing techniques: the scope for the adaptation and updating of existing skills to improve the employment prospects of those in areas of industrial decline, especially areas dominated by the steel industry;

unchanged

unchanged

(iv) - older skilled workers made redundant as a result of the restructuring of traditional manufacturing industry: the scope for the adaptation and updating of existing skills to improve the employment prospects of those in areas of industrial decline, especially areas dominated by the steel industry;

(v) - the development of qualifications in the following sectors: data processing, electronics and information technology;

(vi) - public awareness and understanding about the applications of new technology: the implications for non-vocational training and information activity, especially involving the contribution of broadcasting authorities.

Amendments tabled by the Committee
on Social Affairs and Employment

Text proposed by the Commission of the
European Communities

unchanged

III. Action at Community level

In order to complement and support action
by Member States

(i) - The Commission is invited, in liaison
with the Member States to set up a
network of demonstration projects
designed to encourage the transfer
of experience and promising innova-
tions and thus to assist Member States
in the continuing evaluation and deve-
lopment of their policies. This
network shall be established in
accordance with the proposals set out
in the Commission's Communication and
shall operate for five years beginning
in 1983.

Amendment No.8 (PE 82.118/fin)

- (ii) - The Commission is invited to ensure (ii)- The Commission is also invited to
the continuing exchange of ideas and ensure the continuing exchange of ideas
experience between scientific experts, and experience drawn from the network
enterprises and those bodies respon- of demonstration projects as well as
sible for training, these ideas and from the other initiatives taken by
experience being drawn from the Member States in the priority fields
network of demonstration projects indicated under Section II above.
as well as from the other initiatives
taken by Member States in the priority
fields indicated under Section II above.

Amendments tabled by the Committee
on Social Affairs and Employment

unchanged

Text proposed by the Commission of the
European Communities

- (iii) - The Commission is invited, within the context of its work regarding the development of greater comparability of qualifications, to examine the evolution of qualifications in the following sectors: data processing electronics and information technology.
- (iv) - The Commission is invited to foster the development of education and information programmes for adults, in collaboration with the broadcasting organisations, to make the public more familiar with the potential of new information technologies and thus to contribute to a wider understanding of their significance.
- IV. The Council will examine progress and results with regard to the implementation of this Resolution on the basis of information and reports submitted by the Commission.
- V. Community financing for the measures under III above shall be provided in the framework of the procedures and rules governing the Community's budget. As regards the measures under III (i) above, the Community financing required shall be provided within the framework of the European Social Fund.

FINANCIAL DATA SHEET

unchanged

1. The Community measures set out in the communication to the Council should be fully operational in 1984-87. The preparatory work which will include finalising details of the demonstration projects and establishing the project networks will be carried out in 1983.
2. The following figures concern the preparatory year (1983) and the first full year of operation (1984). The table shows the trend in annual overall costs for 1984-87.
 - A. 1983 Preparatory Year
3. Expenditure during the preparatory year can be carried out under the two broad budget headings of Article 633 (Community activities relating to vocational training and guidance) and Article 770 (Operations in the data-processing sector). More specifically, the preparatory studies necessary for the launching of the programme can be financed most appropriately on the basis of budget item 7718 (Studies on new information technologies) whilst the meetings of experts, the provision of technical assistance and the initial exchanges and visits to possible project locations should be financed

Amendments tabled by the Committee
on Social Affairs and Employment

Text proposed by the Commission of the
European Communities

on the basis of newly-created budget item 6331 (vocational training activities specifically related to the introduction of new technologies) which would clearly distinguish activity related to the action programme from other on-going vocational training activities.

Calculations in ECU

Studies	450.000
Meetings of experts	120.000
Technical assistance	50.000
Initial visits and exchanges	<u>95.000</u>
TOTAL 1983	715.000 ECU

Amendment No.9 (PE 82.118/fin.)

Expenditure during 1984-87 on the operation of the four groups of demonstration projects could fall under Chapters 60-62 following the Review of the Social Fund in 1982. Expenditure on activities related to the projects, on the mutual recognition of qualifications and on increasing public awareness and understanding should be carried out under the new budget item 6331 (mentioned above). A separate title should be included for this purpose in the 1983 budget.

Rest unchanged

B. 1984 First fully operational year of
the programme

Expenditure during 1984-87 on the operation of the four groups of demonstration projects could fall under Chapters 60 - 62 following the Review of the Social Fund in 1982. Expenditure on activities related to the projects, on the mutual recognition of qualifications and on increasing public awareness and understanding should be carried out under the new budget item 6331 (mentioned above).

II. Draft Council resolution concerning vocational training policies in
the European Communities in the 1980's
(COM (82) final)

Amendments tabled by the Committee on
Social Affairs and Employment

Preamble

unchanged

Text proposed by the Commission of the
European Communities

Preamble

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the
European Economic Community,

Having regard to the draft resolution from the
Commission,

Having regard to the opinion of the European Par-
liament, (1)

Having regard to the opinion of the Economic and
Social Committee, (2)

Amendment No.1, first recital
(Cf. PE 81.362/fin.)

Whereas Council Decision 63/266 EEC laid
down general principles for the implemen-
tation of a common vocational policy (3),
and the Advisory Committee on Vocational
Training has expressed its views on the
further development of that policy; and
the Council Directive of 9 February 1976
on equal treatment also covers equal
treatment in respect of vocational
training (OJ No. L 39, 14.2.1979, p.40);

Whereas Council Decision 63/266/EEC laid down
general principles for the implementation of a
common vocational training policy (3), and the
Advisory Committee on Vocational Training has
expressed its views on the further development of that
policy;

(1)

(2)

(3) OJ No.63, 20.4.1963, p.1338/63

(4) OJ No. L 39, 14.2.1976, p.40

Amendments tabled by the Committee
on Social Affairs and Employment

unchanged

unchanged

unchanged

Text proposed by the Commission of the
European Communities

Whereas the European Council, at its meeting in March 1982, indicated in its conclusion that in order to contribute to the progressive definition of a European social policy the Member States would take measures concerning more particularly the vocational training of young people and, as a first step, would strive to ensure over the next five years that all young persons entering the labour market for the first time would receive vocational training or initial work experience within the framework of special youth schemes or contracts of employment (1);

Whereas the European Council, at its meeting in June 1982, asked the Joint Council (Ministers of Finance, Economic Affairs and Social Affairs) to adopt firm decisions on a proposal from the Commission regarding specific Community measures to combat unemployment, particularly in the case of young people (2);

Whereas the Council, at the end of its meeting of 27 May 1982, adopted a resolution on Community action to combat unemployment underlining the priority which the Community should give to the vocational training and integration of young people (3), and approved a further Community action programme on the promotion of equal opportunity for women, 1982-1985 (4);

-
- (1) Bull EC 3-1982, point 1.3.5
 - (2) Bull EC 6-1982, point 1.5.3
 - (3) OJ No. C 186, 21.7.1982, p.1
 - (4) OJ No.C 186, 21.7.1982, p.3

Amendments tabled by the Committee
on Social Affairs and Employment

unchanged

Text proposed by the Commission of the
European communities

Whereas the European Parliament on 22 April 1982 adopted a resolution on youth unemployment (1), with particular emphasis on the need to bring training into line with technological development and on greater involvement of Community financial instruments in job-creation programmes; whereas this resolution reinforces the resolution on social policy priorities adopted by the European Parliament (2) and other resolutions, notably those relating to a Community programme in the field of education (3), on linking work and training for young persons in the Community (4), on the economic, social and vocational integration of disabled people in the European Community (5) and on measures to combat illiteracy (6);

Amendment No.2, new recital

(Cf. PE 81.362)

Whereas on 11 February 1981 and
12 May 1982 the European Parliament
adopted two resolutions in which
the importance of vocational
training for women was stressed;

(1) OJ C 125, 17.5.1982, p.74

(2) PE 74.858

(3) OJ No.C 87, 5.4.1982, p.90

(4) OJ No. C 77, 6.4.1981, p.71

(5) OJ No.C 77, 6.4.1981, p.27

(6) OJ No.C 149, 14.6.1982, p.149

Amendments tabled by the Committee
on Social Affairs and Employment

unchanged

unchanged

unchanged

Text proposed by the Commission of the
European Communities

Reaffirming that vocational training is a basic element of a social policy designed to permit each individual to develop and to realize his or her potential throughout adult life and in particular to promote equal opportunities for men and women;

Emphasizing the importance of vocational training policies in order to master and exploit the potential of the new information technologies (1), particularly with a view to supporting policies designed to promote job creation, industrial restructuring and innovation, and the revitalization of depressed areas;

Confirming therefore that further steps should be taken in liaison with both sides of industry at national and Community level to strengthen the implementation of a common policy on vocational training, welcoming in this context the Commission's communication 'The development of vocational training policies in the European Communities in the 1980's' and the guidelines contained therein,

HEREBY ADOPTS THIS RESOLUTION:

(1) COM (82) 296 final

Amendments tabled by the Committee
on Social Affairs and Employment

I. unchanged

Text proposed by the Commission of
the European Communities

I. Further to the principles already adopted in Decision 63/266/EEC, Member States are invited to develop their vocational training policies, in particular:

- as an instrument of an active employment policy designed to promote economic and social development,
- as a means of ensuring for young people a full social and vocational preparation for adult responsibilities and working life,
- as a means of promoting equality of opportunity.

II. unchanged

Amendment No.3 (Cf. PE 81.362/fin.)

(i) to improve both the quality and the scope of vocational training for workers of all ages and both sexes. Whilst immediate priority may be given to young people and the long term unemployed, continuing attention should be given to the training and retraining needs of other workers, especially those at most risk from changes in the labour market, i.e. women.

II. In order to achieve these objectives, an increased effort is required by Member States taking account of the responsibilities of both sides of industry:

- (i) To improve both the quality and the scope of vocational training for workers of all ages. Whilst immediate priority may be given to young people and the long-term unemployed, continuing attention should be given to the training and retraining needs of other workers, especially those at most risk from changes in the labour market.

Amendments tabled by the Committee
on Social Affairs and Employment

(ii) unchanged

(iii) unchanged

(iv) unchanged

Text proposed by the Commission of the
European Communities

(ii) To develop training programmes which are increasingly broad-based, enabling the recipients to acquire a wide range of practical skills designed to assist their adaptability to technological change, to improve their social and professional mobility, and to encourage them to play an active and independent role in society.

(iii) To ensure that training programmes lead to recognized qualifications. Systems of certification should provide maximum flexibility to facilitate the development of modular approaches to training and to make allowance, for instance, for training programmes based essentially on practical work experience.

(iv) To establish an effective right to continuing vocational training and retraining to be available to all throughout their working life, in particular by encouraging training leave. Particular attention should be paid to the problems faced by workers lacking the basic skills and qualifications usually required for admission to training programmes.

(v) unchanged

(v) To expand the number of training provisions specifically designed to facilitate the access of women to occupations where they are traditionally under-represented and to skilled jobs with a high technical content.

(vi) unchanged

(vi) To ensure that training resources can be utilized in the development of local initiatives to stimulate new economic activity and job-creation. Training in business and management skills and for launching entrepreneurial initiatives should be made more generally available to facilitate the creation of small enterprises including cooperatives.

(vii) unchanged

(vii) To improve the quality and scope of the training of instructors and vocational-guidance counsellors, and to pay particular attention to the training needs of local development agents and advisers.

(viii) unchanged

(viii) To develop further the active cooperation at national and local level of all parties concerned in the field of vocational training, including public authorities, both sides of industry and voluntary agencies. Progress should be made towards a more integrated conception of training provisions at regional and local level, taking special account of the particular needs of depressed areas

Amendments tabled by the Committee
on Social Affairs and Employment

Text proposed by the Commission of the
European Communities

III. unchanged

III. Member States are invited specifically to take the necessary measures to ensure that, over the next five years, all young people who so wish may receive, as a minimum:

(a) a full-time programme of social and vocational preparation for working life during an initial one-year period immediately after the end of full-time compulsory schooling;

(b) an entitlement to the equivalent of a further one-year period of vocational training to be used on a full-time or part-time basis before reaching the age of 25.

In the implementation of these objectives, Member States will follow the guidelines regarding the social guarantee for young people as set out by the Commission in its communication. The Commission is invited to prepare a comparative review of the progress achieved by Member States in time for presentation during the International Youth Year in 1985, and a further report as the end of a five-year period.

IV unchanged

IV. The Council invites the Commission to pursue its action designed to encourage innovation and the qualitative improvement of training systems in Member States:

Amendments tabled by the Committee on
Social Affairs and Employment

Text proposed by the Commission of the
European Communities

- (a) by setting certain common goals or guidelines in order to respond to the need for greater convergence of policies in this field whilst at the same recognizing the diversity of training situations in the Member States, and the need for flexible Community action;
- (b) by contributing to raising the quality of training provisions by setting a framework which could serve as a point of reference for relevant activities of the European Social Fund;
- (c) by fostering experiments which can help illuminate national policies and practices through a more organized process for exchanging and analyzing experience at Community level;
- (d) by extending the arrangements for the dissemination of information and experience between Member States for the benefit of both policymakers and practitioners, as a means of drawing attention to the quality of promising training initiatives for wider application.

V. unchanged

V. The Council encourages the Commission to carry out the series of actions set out in its communication, regarding the following three priority spheres of common concern:

- (a) the social and vocational preparation of young people for adult life and for entry into the labour market in the period following the end of full-time compulsory education (which in most Member States occurs at 16 years of age) up to the age of 18, coupled with the intensification of training measures for young people up to 25 years of age as an integral part of an overall social and employment policy;
- (b) training aspects of strategies for greater equality of opportunity, with particular reference to the improvement of basic skills and to the desegregation of the labour market through positive action to promote the participation of women in training programmes; and
- (c) the conception and harnessing of training measures to support social and economic development, and in particular the process of job creation, at local and regional levels, and the improvement of guidance and support for all workers facing the problems of change and transition including those approaching the period of retirement.

Amendments tabled by the Committee on
Social Affairs and Employment

Text proposed by the Commission of the
European Communities

The Commission is requested to inform the Council periodically of progress made in the implementation of these actions.

VI. unchanged

VI. The financing of the measures to be implemented at Community level shall be provided in the framework of the rules and procedures governing the Community budget.

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

closing the procedure for consultation of the European Parliament on the Commission communication on vocational training and new information technologies: new Community initiatives during the period 1983-1987 and the draft resolution of the Council concerning vocational training policies in the European Communities in the 1980s

The European Parliament

- having regard to the Commission communication (COM(82) 296 final)¹,
 - having regard to the draft Council resolution (COM(82) 637 final)²,
 - having been consulted by the Council pursuant to Article 100 of the EEC Treaty (Doc. 1-419/82 and 1-902/82),
 - having regard to the motion for a resolution tabled by Mrs CHARZAT and others on vocational training for young people (Doc. 1-490/82),
 - having regard to the motion for a resolution by Mrs CHARZAT and others on vocational training (Doc. 1-491/82),
 - having regard to the motion for a resolution tabled by Mrs THEOBALD-PAOLI and others on extended action by the Community in the new technologies sector (Doc. 1-501/82),
 - having regard to the report of the Committee on Social Affairs and Employment and the opinions of the Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs, the Committee on Youth, Culture, Education, Information and Sport, the Committee of Inquiry into the Situation of Women in Europe and the Committee on Energy and Research (Doc. 1-1363/82),
 - having regard to the result of the vote on the Commission's proposals,
1. Takes the view that an improvement in the employment situation will partly depend on the restoration of economic growth in the Community and that this goal may also be reached by investment to improve competitiveness on the world market and stimulate the internal market;

¹ OJ No. C 162, 29.6.1982, p. 7

² OJ No. C 306, 23.11.1982, p.6

2. Is of the opinion that one of the preconditions for the aforesaid improvement is a strengthening of the ability to renew and extend the technological potential and that at European level in general, it will be necessary to utilize the new technologies in order to safeguard the competitiveness of its industry;
3. Underlines in this connection the urgent need for a common research and technology policy to guide innovation processes in the countries of the European Community in such a way that they will not only bring technical and economic benefits but will also be compatible with human and social considerations and meet the specific needs of Europe;
4. Recognizes that the introduction of new technologies creates human problems as well as technical and economic ones so that the way in which this technological revolution is embarked upon (i.e. the social, economic and political options which are taken) will play a decisive role and can hinder or facilitate the process of renewal;
5. Welcomes, therefore, Community efforts to promote understanding of the importance of the new technologies;
6. Is aware that the new technologies will lead to a general reduction in trivial repetitive tasks and considers it important that the Community maintain its ability to develop a sufficient number of new products and services for the world market to ensure that more new jobs are created than are lost and to improve the quality of life;
7. Emphasizes accordingly the need for a process of adjustment concentrating on companies' ability to switch over their activities and the ability of workers to acquire new knowledge and skills;
8. Notes that the Commission's communication contains no data on the kinds of vacancies already occurring and which are proving difficult to fill in the new information technology sector, and calls upon the Commission to produce such evidence as the necessary basis for Community education programmes linked to the spread of new technology;
9. Points out that education, training and retraining have a decisive role to play in this area;

10. Agrees with the Commission that the problems are the same in all the Member States so that there is a need for a coordinated policy since a large number of initiatives will have a greater effect at European level;
11. Welcomes therefore the Commission's proposal for Community measures to supplement and strengthen the vocational training policies of the Member States;
12. Subscribes to the view that a policy on vocational training in the 1980s should be regarded as an essential ingredient of an overall strategy to combat unemployment;
13. Considers the five-year action programme (1984-1989) on vocational training and the action programme (1983-1987) on the role of the new technologies in vocational training to be coherent elements of this strategy;
14. Notes with satisfaction that the Commission has taken account in its proposal of the peculiarities of the individual Member States' educational systems;
15. Doubts whether it is sensible, within the limits of finance likely to be available, to guarantee a further year of training before the age of 25;
16. Is aware of the importance of a flexible and purposeful use of the Social Fund, the contribution to be made by small and medium-sized companies, including cooperatives, a rise in geographical and professional mobility and a policy of profitable initiatives for disadvantaged regions (see paragraph 18);
17. Emphasizes the need to include the Social Fund and the Regional Fund as instruments in this process and to ensure active participation of all the partners involved in the labour market;
18. Is aware of the importance of a flexible and intensive use of the Social Fund, the contribution to be made by small and medium-sized companies, a rise in labour mobility and an imaginative policy for disadvantaged regions (see paragraph 16);
19. Finds it regrettable that young people leaving school or interrupting their education should immediately join the ranks of the unemployed, which can lead to a feeling of uselessness; welcomes the fact, therefore, that the

Commission has taken particular account of this situation in its proposal to offer all young people under 18 an alternative to unemployment in the form of generalized education, training or work practice;

20. Applauds therefore the exhortations for special efforts to be made in the following fields: unemployment amongst young people and measures to facilitate the transition from school to work, employment opportunities in small and medium-sized companies which should also be extended to craft industries and cooperatives and the use of new technologies for this purpose, a more flexible extension of the technologies, the financing of information and training courses and grants for retraining courses;
21. Is particularly aware of the need to provide better information on the opportunities for setting up new companies;
22. Recognizes therefore the importance of increased use of local resources and activities (in small and medium-sized companies, including craft industries and cooperatives) and the importance of providing better advice and training facilities which should accompany such activities;
23. Considers special efforts to impart basic schooling to be important since workers with an inadequate school education have very poor prospects of finding a job;
24. Points out that in areas in which traditional employment opportunities no longer exist new employment opportunities must now be built up by attracting new information technologies, with centralized companies being divided up into smaller units;
25. Underlines also that in these areas new employment opportunities must be sought in the establishment of small and medium-sized companies, including cooperatives which will utilize new technologies;
26. Emphasizes the importance of efforts to ensure the equality of men and women, including special efforts to diversify career opportunities for women in connection with the introduction of new technologies;
27. Underlines also the importance of bringing the handicapped into paid employment and the opportunities opened up by new technologies for greater work mobility;

28. Is convinced of the need for greater participation by women in general, and by women's organizations in particular, in order to direct the use of new technologies towards an improvement in the role of women and in society as a whole;
29. Supports the Commission's proposals to lay down common objectives and guidelines to raise the quality of training courses by creating a legal framework for the vocational training measures promoted by the Social Fund, to encourage trial projects to make policy and practical progress achieved in the individual Member States better known by means of a more effective exchange and better assessment of results and to improve the procedure for disseminating information and experience;
30. Supports the setting up of an information system which can help to improve the exchange of ideas and information between those who take decisions and who are responsible for administration in the Community and to reach the objectives which have been set in conjunction with the Commission;
31. Believes that a special recommendation should be addressed to the Member States with a view to rationalizing and simplifying the rules applied by employment offices for placings in the various employment sectors;
32. Calls on the Council to support the comprehensive Community effort in the training sector;
33. Instructs its President to forward to the Council and Commission, as Parliament's opinion, the Commission's proposal as voted by Parliament and the corresponding resolution.

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION DOCUMENT 1-490/82 tabled by Mrs CHARZAT, Mrs PERY, Mr SABY, and Mrs VAYSSADE pursuant to Rule 47 of the Rules of Procedure on vocational training for young people

The European Parliament,

- A - having regard to Articles 117, 118 and 128 of the Treaty of Rome
 - B - having regard to the decision of 2 April 1963 setting out general principles for the implementation of a common policy on vocational training
 - C - having regard to the resolution of the Council and Ministers of Education of 13 December 1976
 - D - having regard to the recommendation of the Commission of 6 July 1977 concerning the preparation of young people for working life,
 - E - having regard to the Council resolution of 18 December 1979 concerning linked work and training for young people,
 - F - whereas it is henceforth important to show consideration for the rights of workers in the Community by setting up a European social security area,
 - G - whereas in 1978 nearly 2.5 million young people in the Member States left school without having received any training,
 - H - whereas young people of 14 to 24 years of age account for 16.3% of the population of the EEC, 17.2% of the potential workforce and 41.4% of those without work,
 - I - whereas there is a widening gap between the type of young people arriving on the employment market and the jobs on offer, particularly in terms of levels and types of qualifications and working conditions,
 - J - whereas schools are today incapable of providing the training and practical experience which would ease the transition to working life,
1. Calls on the Council of Ministers to define a forceful Community policy to encourage the vocational training of young people;

2. Welcomes any initiative which, at Community level, encourages:
 - a - access to part-time training for young workers who have received no recognized form of training;
 - b - the extension of the activities of secondary education institutions and universities to include part-time general and vocational training;
 - c - the promotion, under collective agreements, of arrangements such as the combination of training and employment contracts;
 - d - the setting up of a permanent vocation information and guidance system,
3. Requests the Council of Ministers to introduce a Community vocational training action plan for young people on the basis of the Commission's recommendation of 4 July 1977:
4. Stresses that vocational guidance for young people must be designed to make them aware of belonging to a community whose culture and values are based on the work ethic:
5. Recommends, to this effect, that this type of training be accompanied by courses in the history of labour and social legislation.

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION DOCUMENT 1-491/82 tabled by Mrs CHARZAT, Mrs PERY, Mr SABY and Mrs VAYSSADE pursuant to Rule 47 of the Rules of Procedure on vocational training

The European Parliament

- A - having regard to Article 128 of the Treaty of Rome which stipulates that the Community 'shall lay down general principles for implementing a common vocational training policy',
 - B - having regard to the Council decision of 2 April 1963 laying down the general principles for that policy,
 - C - having regard to the Commission recommendation of 18 July 1966 for the development of vocational guidance,
 - D - having regard to the Council decision of February 1975 setting up the European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training,
 - E - having regard to the Commission recommendation of 6 July 1977 concerning the preparation of young people for working life,
 - F - whereas it is henceforth important to show consideration for the rights of workers in the Community by setting up a European social security area,
 - G - whereas vocational training can have the effect of increasing economic production capacity by raising both general and specific qualifications,
 - H - whereas it is in this sense an effective method of combating the unemployment and inflation rife in the Member States,
 - I - whereas the unemployment rate of workers in the Member States is inversely proportional to the level of their skills,
 - J - whereas the jobs available to the least skilled workers offer them only limited practical training opportunities,
1. Calls on the Member States to develop rapidly, in terms of both quality and quantity and regardless of the short-term requirements of their own labour markets, a genuine Community vocational training policy designed to:
- a - ensure that the primary skills actually acquired are of a level at least equal to that of a skilled labourer;
 - b - promote, more specifically, the acquisition of the scientific knowhow and highly technical skills required by the use of new technologies;
 - c - encourage firms to step up their training efforts;
 - d - guarantee at Community level the value of the skills acquired during vocational training;

4. RECOMMENDATIONS, TO WHICH THE FOLLOWING CONSIDERATION IS GIVEN TO THE
following measures:

- a - establishment of a genuine dualist system in which equal importance is attached to both theoretical and practical training;
 - b - increased investment in the area of vocational and further training;
 - c - positive discrimination in favour of the various social categories most affected by unemployment: women, young people, unskilled workers, the handicapped and immigrants by providing them with preferential access to training;
 - d - guarantees for the social position of workers undergoing training (social security, pay, social legislation);
3. Proposes that the system of continuous training and the regulations applicable to leave for training purposes be extended to all the Member States.

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION DOCUMENT 1-501/82 tabled by Mrs THEOBALD-PAOLI, Mr JAQUET and Mr JACQUES MOREAU pursuant to Rule 47 of the Rules of Procedure on extended action by the Community in the new technologies sector

The European Parliament

- A. having regard to the results of the Versailles Summit of industrialized countries (5 and 6 June 1982) and the decision of the seven countries, with which the European Community associated itself, to launch a concerted programme to revive the world economy and recover growth by developing technology and harnessing it for the benefit of employment and working conditions;
- B. having regard to the previous initiatives of the European Parliament in this area, in particular the motion for a resolution (Doc. 1-346/80) by Mrs GASPARD and Mr BALFE on the state of the market for electronic products in Europe and on the consequences for employment, and the report (Doc. 1-189/82) by Mr HERMAN on the same subject, the objectives of which must continue to be pursued and above all extended;
- C. having regard to the motion for a resolution (Doc. 1-93/82) on measures to promote research in Europe;
- D. whereas Europe's ability to maintain its potential for growth and international influence depends largely on its ability to adapt to the development of new technologies, thereby following the example set in Japan and on the west coast of the USA where the public and private sectors have invested in these fields;
- E. whereas electronics and data processing are the new technologies that can be developed most quickly and our present command of these technologies makes it possible to anticipate rapid growth in this sector;
- F. whereas these technologies can lead not to the reduction of jobs but to the creation of new jobs of a more varied kind and requiring greater skills, if certain social conditions and methods of labour organization are introduced in various sectors;
- G. whereas, according to the proposals put forward at the Versailles Summit, the Community must become the priority framework for the action of the various Member States;

- H. whereas it is the aim of the European Economic Community, according to the spirit and the letter of the Treaty of Rome of 25 March 1957, to ensure the economic prosperity of the Member States and whereas it must use every possible means to this end, including more intensive research into the links between technology and employment;
- I. whereas the Community must to this end ensure the exploitation of the very important work carried out by the specialized research institutions established under the aegis of or within the Member States, such as the World Centre for Data Processing and Human Resources set up in Paris;
- J. whereas the questions of environment and employment are closely linked;
- K. whereas the profound differences that exist between the national markets, due in particular to the priority too often given to national tenders in the awarding of public contracts, have unquestionably hindered the development of enterprises in sectors where innovation is extremely rapid;
1. Affirms its resolve that technology should be harnessed for the benefit of employment and working conditions;
 2. Requests the governments of the Member States to set up an extensive training system by organizing, from 1983, a specific scheme in each country for training in the new technologies (for example in the following sectors: new energy sources, telecommunications, robotics, new materials, composite materials, electronics, artificial intelligence, space, biotechnology and agricultural technologies specially intended for the Third World), concentrating on the following three main groups:
 - priority training of engineers and technicians;
 - training for the young unemployed, aged from 16 to 18;
 - retraining in the new technologies for workers in mid-career;
 3. Requests the Commission to draw up as quickly as possible a special independent programme for exchanges and cooperation among Europeans in the training field, in conjunction with work that the OECD might undertake;
 4. Requests the Commission to set up a centre to observe the new technologies in order to monitor the changes in the occupations concerned, possibly in cooperation with the ILO;
 5. Requests the Council to develop, after consulting the two sides of industry, the European research policy in the fields of labour organization, working conditions associated with the new technologies, their effects on hours of work and the possibilities of reducing hours of work as a result of the new technologies;

6. Requests the Commission to draw up a programme to evaluate the successful and unsuccessful experiments conducted in towns and the effects of technological changes on urban life;
7. Considers it urgent to complete the unification of company law in the Community and requests the Commission to submit the appropriate directives to the Council;
8. Considers that in order to create the conditions for enterprises to become more competitive on both the European and world markets, the Commission and the Member States must encourage enterprises to coordinate and combine their efforts in order to achieve greater profitability;
9. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Commission of the European Communities, to the Council and to the governments of the Member States.

OPINION OF THE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC AND MONETARY AFFAIRS

Draftsman: Mr P. Schnitker

At its meeting of 21 September 1982, the Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs appointed Mr Paul Schnitker draftsman of an opinion for the Committee on Social Affairs and Employment (Doc. 1-419/82 and Doc. 1-501/82).

The committee considered the draft opinion at its meeting of 18-19 January 1983 and adopted it unanimously with 13 votes in favour and no abstentions.

The following took part in the vote: Mr Hopper, vice-chairman; Mr Schnitker, rapporteur; Mr Beazley, Mr Caborn, Mr Carossino (deputizing for Mr Bonaccini), Mrs Desouches, Mr Franz, Mr I. Friedrich, Mr Giavazzi, Mr Herman, Mr Nordmann, Mr Papantoniou and Mr van Rompuy.

PE 82.198/fin.

1. The Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs welcomes the Commission's early recognition of the impact on the economy and society ensuing from the development of the new information technologies and its proposal for a Community strategy which is fundamentally favourably disposed towards the new technologies and assumes that the social and economic repercussions of new technologies can be overcome, in particular by means of intensified promotion of vocational training and further education. In this connection, the committee considers that harmonization of the various education and vocational training systems is a necessary condition and that continued efforts should be made along these lines.

THE COMMISSION PROPOSAL

2. The Commission proposal for new Community initiatives is based on the opinions of the Standing Committee on Employment, the Advisory Committee on Vocational Training and the publications of the European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training (CEDEFOP). The Commission proposal provides the Council and the Member States with a series of guidelines outlining the most important directions and target groups for the measures to be taken with a view to improving training for employees in specific technologies, which would enable them to adapt actively and successfully to the changing requirements of work processes. Particular importance here is attached to concerted action by management, labour and the public authorities with regard to the introduction of new information technologies.

In a second section, the Commission proposes to the Member States a priority list of areas for particular promotion: small and medium-sized enterprises seeking to modernize, large-scale enterprises and the service sectors and their adaptation to automated administrative techniques, problem groups such as unqualified young people or workers affected by restructuring and, finally, information to the public at large.

At Community level, the Commission proposes to the Council that measures taken by the Member States are supplemented by means of

- coordinated implementation and management of demonstration projects within the next five years,

- promotion of the exchange of experience between the Member States,
- studies to produce better comparability of qualifications and their development in the following sectors: data processing, electronics and information technology,
- action in the fields of adult education and public relations in cooperation with the broadcasting organizations.

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION, DOCUMENT 1-501/82

3. The motion for a resolution, Document 1-501/82, ascribes a key role to electronics and data processing among the new technologies on the basis of their growth potential and calls for the creation of extensive training schemes in each individual country in each of the new technology sectors, with the emphasis on training engineers and technicians and on measures for training the young unemployed and retraining workers in these new techniques.

The document also calls on the Commission to draw up a special programme in the training field in conjunction with the OECD.

COMMENTS

4. In its introductory sections, the Commission draws attention to the wide-ranging impact of the new information technologies on manufacturing processes and production structures, the organization of manpower, working conditions and the social sector in the wider sense.
5. The Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs agrees with the Commission that the special challenge of the new technologies lies in devising a constructive and realistic response to them.

The committee also points out that the new information technologies, i.e. introducing and developing microelectronics in production and administrative processes, essentially involve an investment problem, which is particularly apparent against a backdrop of severe economic recession.

The social element of business investment in the micro-technology field, as opposed to other forms of investment, consists essentially in the greater need for concomitant investment in staff training. This concomitant investment in training and further education of staff at company level and a more general level is a crucial prerequisite for the successful application of information technologies.

6. The committee points out that the need for heavier investment in staff expertise is increasingly apparent in all sectors of modern technology and must be construed as a sign of the growing complexity of our production techniques. Concentrating measures on microelectronics and data processing would therefore be one-sided and would not - as set forth in Mrs Theobald-Paoli's motion for a resolution - meet the requirements of sectors such as energy technology, biotechnology and new construction materials.
7. The committee stresses that a correct market assessment of investment requirements in training and further education of staff can ultimately be made only at the place of investment in conjunction with the appurtenant capital expenditure.
8. The committee therefore points out that with regard to a needs-related system of vocational training, the 'subsidiarity principle' must be applied to a particularly high degree, especially as over 60% of practical vocational training in Community countries is conducted by small and medium-sized enterprises and 60% of all the gainfully employed hold jobs in enterprises of this type. In view of the extremely diverse and differentiated forms in which the new technologies are used in these enterprises, Community initiatives in the field of vocational training policy must primarily - in a market economy system - be directed towards providing aid for self-help and avoiding any one-sided training of specialists which ignores market realities.
9. The committee calls attention here to the dense network of organizations in individual Member States of chambers of commerce and professional associations actively producing local, needs-related programmes of practical vocational training and implementing them in collaboration with educational institutions. In this respect, the dual system of

company training closely interlocking with a more general form of training has proved particularly successful. This dual system of training has great advantages over the purely academic form. These reveal themselves not only in company efficiency but also on the labour market in that the number of unemployed young people is considerably lower in the Community countries with dual systems of vocational training.

10. The committee is therefore of the opinion that measures designed to increase consideration of information technology in vocational training can be successfully implemented only if closely coordinated with the competent bodies responsible for practice-oriented vocational training, since only under this condition is it ensured that information technology is incorporated into the programme of instruction at the point where it is also utilized in company practice.
11. The committee welcomes the Commission's intention to encourage a broader-based approach to training and thereby permit a smoother transition into the further training which is more and more necessary during the course of a working life. Vocational training must also create the conditions whereby once an occupation is acquired it can be pursued in different firms and sectors and also whereby skilled work of a related nature can be performed by acquiring the missing skills.
12. The committee draws attention to the particularly urgent need for constant further training of workers owing to the continuing penetration of new techniques. These further training measures are not only in the interest of the firm but also of the economy, the state and society as a whole as, even in times of crisis, they are the best safeguard against long-term unemployment. It must therefore be of prime importance to the Member States to enable firms, particularly small and medium-sized enterprises, to release their employees so as to avail themselves of further training of this type. More funds should therefore be made available from the EEC Social Fund but also from the budgets of the individual Member States for promotion of further training programmes. Tax incentives must also be created to facilitate company implementation of further training schemes for their employees.

The Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs recommends that the committee responsible considers the following points:

CONCLUSIONS

13. The committee welcomes the Commission's initiative to adopt measures both at Community level and at the level of the Member States to incorporate the new technologies, in particular the information technologies, more extensively into training and further education programmes in order to increase worker flexibility, decrease the risk of unemployment and thereby raise the adaptability and efficiency of EEC enterprises.

The committee agrees with the Commission that appropriate measures be taken through public relations and general education in schools to diminish the anxiety and resistance to the introduction of new information technologies which are frequently based on ignorance.

14. The committee recommends close coordination on measures and initiatives by the Community and the Member States in the field of vocational and further training with the competent bodies responsible for vocational training, in particular with the chambers of commerce and professional associations which exist in some countries.
15. In this respect the committee calls attention to the special benefits of dual vocational training in which company training and a more general form of training closely interlock. This dual system of training has great advantages over the purely academic form. It is practice-oriented, which reveals itself not only in company efficiency but also on the labour market, in that the number of unemployed young people is considerably lower in the Community countries with dual systems of vocational training.
16. The Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs recommends the committee responsible to amend the draft Council resolution drawn up by the Commission on 'measures of vocational training relating to the introduction of new information technologies' on the following points:

I. General guidelines

Replace the text under (i) with the following:

'provision of up-to-date training in order

- to be able to practise the acquired occupation in different enterprises and sectors and possibly carry out skilled work of a related nature after acquiring those skills which are lacking;
- to be able to adapt flexibly to new work structures, production methods and technologies with the aim of maintaining professional qualifications;
- to be able to participate in further training schemes to safeguard professional qualifications and mobility,'

Condense points (ii) and (iii) into one point to read as follows:

'Provision of training in this field to be directed at the working population as a whole and the development of balanced systems of social and vocational preparation and training designed to familiarize young people and adults both with the applications of the new technologies and with their social consequences;

(iv) Add the following sentence to this point:

'greater promotion of further education facilities for instructors and managerial staff in new technologies and more frequent practical experience in industrial enterprises in which the technology is applied.'

(v) Delete this point and replace with the following:

'promotion of intensified collaboration between enterprises and schools locally, between teachers and industry and between management and labour in drawing up training and further education programmes.'

(vi) Delete this point and replace with:

'establishment of appropriate fiscal, legal and financial outline conditions making it easier for firms to release their employees to attend courses of further education, particularly for instruction in new technologies.'

II

Action by Member States

(i) Replace this point with:

- To enable small and medium-sized enterprises to modernize their manufacturing processes by applying new information technologies and to familiarize their staff, in particular those undergoing training, with these technologies.

(iv) Replace the phrase 'traditional manufacturing industry' with:

- '... traditional manufacturing techniques'.

III

Action at Community level

(ii) Expand this point and reword as follows:

- The Commission is invited to ensure the continuing exchange of ideas and experience between scientific experts, enterprises and those bodies responsible for training, these ideas and experience being drawn from the network of demonstration projects as well as from the other initiatives taken by Member States in the priority fields indicated under Section II above.

Financial data sheet

Add the following sentence to the first paragraph of point B:

A separate title should be included for this purpose in the 1983 budget

OPINION OF THE COMMITTEE ON YOUTH, CULTURE,
EDUCATION, INFORMATION AND SPORT

Draftsman: Mr GEROKOSTOPOULOS

On 5 July 1982 the Committee on Youth, Culture, Education, Information and Sport was asked by the European Parliament to deliver an opinion to the Committee on Social Affairs and Employment on the communication from the Commission to the Council (COM(82) 296 final) on 'vocational training and new information technologies: new Community initiatives during the period 1983-87 (Doc. 1-419/82) on which the Council had decided to consult the Parliament on a voluntary basis.

On 19 November 1982 the committee was asked to deliver an opinion to the Committee on Social Affairs and Employment on the draft Resolution of the Council (COM(82) 637/final) concerning vocational training policies in the European Communities in the 1980's (Doc. 1-902/82).

At its meeting of 20 January 1983 the committee decided to draw up one opinion on these two documents and appointed Mr GEROKOSTOPOULOS draftsman.

At its meeting of 22-23 February 1983 the committee considered this opinion and adopted it unanimously.

The following took part in the vote: Mr BEUMER, chairman; Mr FAJARDIE and Mr SCHWENKE, vice-chairman; Mr GEROKOSTOPOULOS, draftsman; Mr ALEXIADIS, Mr BØGH, Mr BOCKLET, Mr BROCK, Mrs BUCHAN, Mr CHANTERIE (deputizing for Mr Van AERSSSEN), Mr MARCK (deputizing for Mrs GAIOTTI DE BIASE), Mr PAPAPIETRO, Mrs PERY and Mr SIMMONDS.

A. INTRODUCTION

1. The Committee on Youth, Culture, Education, Information and Sport has been asked to deliver an opinion to the Committee on Social Affairs and Employment on: (a) the draft Resolution of the Council concerning 'vocational training policies in the 1980's' (COM(82) 637/final) and (b) the communication from the Commission to the Council concerning 'vocational training and new information technologies: new Community initiatives during the period 1983-87' (COM(82) 296/final).
2. It should be noted that: (a) the above measures by the Commission were taken within the framework set out by the Council of Ministers on 1 April 1963 when it decided on the basis of Article 128 of the Treaty of Rome to formulate ten basic principles for the implementation of a common policy in the vocational training sector, and (b) these measures were dictated by two decisions of the European Council calling on the various Community institutions and the governments of Member States to take measures to combat unemployment, in particular youth unemployment.

B. CONTENTS OF THE TWO COMMISSION PROPOSALS UNDER CONSIDERATION

1. Both Commission documents give special attention to the problem of unemployment, especially youth unemployment amongst both men and women, the need for suitable preparation for the transition from education to adult and working life and the importance of new technologies for vocational training following the micro-electronic revolution.

Each of the two documents will be dealt with separately so as to give

members of the committee a clear idea of their contents.

2. Draft Resolution of the Council (COM(82) 637/final)

This draft resolution and the detailed introduction of the Commission set out the general situation described above and define the measures to be taken in the Member States and at Community level. Thus:

- (a) the Member States: are invited to develop their vocational training policies, in particular
- as an instrument of active employment policy designed to promote economic and social development,
 - as an instrument of ensuring for young people a full social and vocational preparation for adult and working life,
 - as a means of promoting equality of opportunity.

Member States are invited specifically to take the necessary measures laid down to achieve the objectives of their policies and to follow the guidelines concerning the 'social guarantee' for young people as described in the Commission's introduction (paragraph 24).

(b) the Commission is encouraged:

- to pursue its action designed to achieve innovation and the qualitative improvement of training systems implemented in Member States along the lines proposed;
- to implement the actions proposed in its introduction concerning three priority sectors of common concern and in the form of experimental, demonstration and pilot projects (all over a five-year period). At the same time networks of linked work and training will be set up. The three spheres in question are:
 - 1) the social and vocational preparation of young people for adult life and for entry into the labour market following the end of compulsory education up to the age of 18, coupled with the intensification of training for young people up to 25 years of age;
 - 2) a strategy for greater equality of opportunity, with particular reference to the improvement of basic skills and to the desegregation of the labour market and the promotion of participation of women in training programmes;
 - 3) the conception and harnessing of training measures to support in particular job creation, at local and regional levels, and support for all workers facing the problems of change and transition.

3. Communication from the Commission to the Council (COM(82) 296/final)

The communication and the attached draft Resolution of the Council lay down the guidelines for action to be taken by the Member States and the Community to supplement and reinforce the vocational training policy and at the same time to promote and develop a common policy for the introduction of the new information technologies. This policy must be socially sensitive and responsible and be fully responsive to economic and technical needs.

In particular:

(a) Member States are called on to give priority to the following areas

- small and medium-sized enterprises so as to enable them to modernise their production processes by the application of new information technologies,
- large-scale enterprises in the services sector because of the need progressively to introduce automated techniques of administration and management;
- unqualified unemployed young people so that new information technologies can be used as a learning tool to facilitate the acquisition of technological and other vocational skills;
- older skilled workers to enable them to adapt and update existing skills which is indispensable as a result of the restructuring of traditional manufacturing processes;
- the development of qualifications in the following sectors: data processing, electronics and information technology;
- public awareness about the applications of new technology.

(b) the Commission is called on to complement and support the action by Member States described above and in liaison with them:

- to set up a network of demonstration projects (of five years' duration) for the transfer of experience and innovations to assist Member States in the development of their policies;
- to ensure the continuing exchange of ideas and experience drawn from the network of demonstration projects and from the Member States in pursuing their policies;
- to examine the evolution of qualifications in the following sectors: data processing, electronics and information technology;
- to foster the development of education and information programmes

for adults, in collaboration with the broadcasting organizations, to make the public more familiar with the potential of new information technologies and with their significance.

C. DURATION OF MEANS AND OF FINANCING THE ACTIONS PROPOSED

1. Draft Resolution of the Council (COM(82) 637/final)

- (a) The proposed Community measures should become fully operational during the period from 1984-1989, while preparations for the progress planned will be carried out in the period from 1980 to 1984.
- (b) It is envisaged that the Community projects (experimental, demonstration and pilot projects) will be financed within the framework of the Social Fund. Expenditure on the other activities will be carried out under a special budget item on vocational training and guidance.

2. Communication from the Commission to the Council (COM(82) 296/final)

- (a) The Community measures provided for will be implemented in 1984-1987. The preparatory work will be carried out in 1983.
- (b) According to the financial data sheet attached to the Commission's Communication the expenditure necessary during the preparatory year will be carried out either under existing budget items (vocational training and guidance) or under a new item (activities related to the introduction of new technologies). It is mentioned that projects during 1984-87 could be financed under items provided for in the review of the Social Fund.

D. COMPETENCE OF THE COMMITTEE ON YOUTH, CULTURE, EDUCATION, INFORMATION AND SPORT

It is clear from the above that both the documents under consideration deal with young people, the alarming increase in youth unemployment and the need to improve existing educational systems by developing professional training etc.

These problems fall certainly, and perhaps exclusively, within the sphere of competence of the Committee on Youth, Culture, Education, Information and Sport, the members of which could reasonably ask why their committee has only been asked to draft an opinion rather than draw up a report.

E. GENERAL OBSERVATIONS

1. The proposals and communication of the Commission and the accompanying motions for resolutions of the Council contain positive proposals and are fully in line with the demands repeatedly made by the European Parliament.

It is recalled in this connection that Parliament has strongly stressed the need for integrated Community efforts to combat unemployment, particularly amongst young people of both sexes, and for measures to be taken in the sphere of vocational training, giving priority to training in new technologies etc.

2. It should be noted in particular that the Commission attaches particular importance to the need to deal with the problem of youth unemployment among both men and women at two critical phases in their lives and the need to develop on a social basis 'the social guarantee' for young people which should form an integral part of a fairer and more rational vocational training policy.
3. Under no circumstances should vocational training and preparation be considered a panacea for solving employment and social problems. Nevertheless, this policy in conjunction with the adjustments made necessary by the electronic revolution can play a positive role if it is developed as part of a general strategy for combating unemployment and if it is linked with policies implemented in other sectors.
4. The policy of vocational training and assimilation of new technologies offers many opportunities for supporting policies aimed at job creation, restructuring and innovating industry and the revival of less favoured regions.

F. CONCLUSIONS

On the basis of the above considerations it is proposed that the Committee on Youth, Culture, Education, Information and Sport:

1. Consider basically satisfactory the actions proposed by the Commission as set out in the draft resolution of the Council concerning 'vocational

training policies in the 1980s' (COM(82) 637/final) and the communication from the Commission to the Council 'on vocational training and new information technologies: new Community initiatives during the period 1983-87' (COM(82) 296/final).

2. Expresses the wish that the Council of Ministers adopt as quickly as possible the motions for resolutions submitted by the Council so as to enable the measures proposed to be implemented without further delay before the end of 1983.
3. Deliver an opinion to the Committee on Social Affairs and Employment on the above lines, pointing out in particular the need to plan the measures proposed by the Commission so as adequately to take into account the less favoured regions of the Community as well.

OPINION OF THE COMMITTEE OF INQUIRY INTO THE
SITUATION OF WOMEN IN EUROPE

Draftsman: Mrs von ALEMANN

At its meeting of 23 November 1981, the Committee of Inquiry into the situation of Women in Europe decided to draw up reports on seventeen different subjects. One of these subjects was vocational training for women, for which Mrs von Alemann was appointed rapporteur at the meeting of 30 November 1981.

In the meantime, the Commission submitted a draft resolution to the Council concerning the development of vocational training policies in the European Communities in the 1980s (Doc. 1-902/82) (COM(82) 637 final).

On 15 November 1982 the Council requested the European Parliament to deliver an opinion on this draft resolution.

On 19 November 1982, the President of the European Parliament referred the draft resolution to the Committee on Social Affairs and Employment as the committee responsible.

As the subject was directly related to the report by Mrs von Alemann, the Committee of Inquiry, at its meeting of 5 November 1982, instructed her to draw up a draft opinion on the draft Council resolution concerning vocational training policies in the 1980s.

On 19 November 1982, the President of the European Parliament formally authorized the Committee of Inquiry to deliver an opinion for the Committee on Social Affairs and Employment.

At its meeting of 20/21 January 1983 the Committee of Inquiry examined the draft resolution and unanimously adopted this opinion, including the amendments to the draft resolution.

The following took part in the vote : Mrs CINCIARI RODANO, chairman; Mrs LENZ, Mrs VAYSSADE and Dame Shelagh ROBERTS, vice-chairmen; Mrs von ALEMANN, vice-chairman and draftsman; Mrs CALVEZ (deputizing for Mrs Martin), Mr ESTGEN, Mrs MAIJ-WEGGEN, Mrs PANTAZI (deputizing for Mrs Lizin) and Mrs SQUARCIALUP (deputizing for Mrs Leroux).

A. OPINION IN THE FORM OF AMENDMENTS

In the context of its opinion, the Committee of Inquiry into the situation of Women in Europe hereby submits to the Committee on Social Affairs and Employment the following amendments, which it wishes to see incorporated in the draft resolution of the Council

Amendments by the Committee
of Inquiry into the Situation
of Women in Europe

Draft resolution of the
Council concerning
vocational training policies

AMENDMENT No. 1

First recital

Add the following to the first
recital :

Whereas Council Decision 63/266/EEC
laid down general principles for
the implementation of a common
vocational training policy(3), and
the Advisory Committee on
Vocational Training has expressed
its views on the future development
of that policy;

' . . . and the Council Directive
of 9 February 1976 on equal treat-
ment also covers equal treatment
in respect of vocational training
(OJ L 39, 14.2.1976, p.40) '.

Second to fifth recitals

unchanged

AMENDMENT No. 2

After the fifth recital add a
new recital as follows :

'Whereas on 11 February 1981 and
12 May 1982 the European Parliament
adopted two resolutions in which
the importance of vocational
training for women was stressed.'

Sixth to eighth recitals

unchanged

HEREBY ADOPTS THIS RESOLUTION :

Paragraph I

unchanged

AMENDMENT No. 3

Add the following to paragraph II(i): Paragraph II(i)

after the words ' . . . for workers of all ages' the words ' <u>and both sexes</u> ';	(i) to improve both the quality and the scope of vocational training for workers of all ages. Whilst
after the words ' . . . in the labour market' the words ' <u>i.e. women</u> '.	immediate priority may be given to young people and the long-term unemployed, continuing attention should be given to the training and retraining needs of other workers, especially those at most risk from changes in the labour market.

OPINION OF THE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND RESEARCH

Draftsman: Mr Karl FUCHS

At its meeting of 3 December 1982 the Committee on Energy and Research appointed Mr K. FUCHS draftsman of the opinion.

It considered the draft opinion at its meetings of 3 December 1982 and 26 January 1983 and adopted it unanimously with 1 abstention at the latter meeting.

The following took part in the vote : Mrs Walz, chairman; Mr Gallagher and Mr Ippolito, vice-chairmen; Mr K. Fuchs, draftsman; Mr Adam, Mr d'Anglade, Mr Beazley (deputizing for Mr Moreland), Mr Calvez (deputizing for Mr Pintat), Mr Griffiths (deputizing for Mrs Lizin), Mr Kellett-Bowman (deputizing for Mr Seligman), Mr Linkohr, Mr Markopoulos, Mr Petersen, Mrs Phlix, Mr Protopapadakis, Mr Purvis, Mr Rinsche, Mr Rogalla, Mr Sälzer, Mr Schmid, Mrs Theobald-Paoli, Sir Peter Vanneck, Mr Veronesi and Mr Wurtz.

I. Relevant research policy aspects in the proposed motion for a resolution

1. The motion for a resolution itself contains references to a series of important considerations for the formulation of current and future policy in the technology sector.

2. The main question for the Committee on Energy and Research is the following : how can European research contribute to guiding technological developments so that they remain in the service of mankind and not the other way around? And has European technological research the potential to enable us to control development or have we already reached the stage where we are constantly lagging behind technological development and carry out research mainly to make good the damage it has caused.

II. Previous action by the Committee on Energy and Research in the technology sector

3. During recent months the committee has done intensive work on a number of the questions referred to in the motion for a resolution :

firstly : the Common Research Policy : problems and prospects¹;

secondly : a European strategic programme for research and development in information technologies²;

thirdly : (due in the spring of 1983) the transnational development of the supporting infrastructure for innovation and technology transfer³;

fourthly : the FAST programme (Forecasting and Assessment in Science and Technology) - a proposal for its continuation will probably be submitted in 1983.

The FAST programme is perhaps the most important of the topics under discussion, but more of this later.

4. In the first two reports referred to above, the committee concluded that

- the Community has not kept up with the pace of technological development, or revolution, with the result that the USA and Japan now have to be regarded as adversaries. This development, which manifests itself as a lack of competitiveness, will have very serious consequences in the form of a loss of jobs (a process already under way),

¹ LINKOHR report, Doc. 1-654/82, OJ No. C 334, 20.12.1982, p.p.96-100

² VERONESI report, Doc. 1-682/82, OJ

³ THEOBALD-PAOLI report, PE 81.585

- this challenge cannot be met at the national level alone; however this is possible at the Community level if national efforts are coordinated and the Community takes on tasks that are transnational by nature or are best done at this level,
- technology is essentially international. The Community's task here is not only to draw attention to national obstacles but especially to indicate and evaluate alternative possibilities and to submit proposals for specific action,
- the Community's Member States must play an active role in helping to prevent the Community becoming a backward area in the field of technology. If this is to be avoided, action has to be taken, on a much greater scale than hitherto and as soon as possible given that research and development in particular should be seen as an investment in the future. Without such investment, one cannot expect to acquire any technological capacity.

5. When Europe's research and development effort in recent years is compared with that of its competitors, it is easy to see why the USA and Japan are far in advance of Europe and also why Europe will remain in this position unless additional, much greater amounts, particularly budget funds, are set aside for research into and development of technology. The present amounts are almost ridiculously low in relation to both current objectives and the challenges of the future.

III. Technology and the future

6. The motion for a resolution is primarily concerned with the relationship between technology and employment, and specifically with the problem of creating - rather than just maintaining - jobs, with the aid of technology, in such a way as to make sure that conditions for employment in the broadest sense are as good as possible. With its limited budget funds, the Community plays a not inconsiderable role here. The most important activity, apart from a series of large- and small-scale special R&D programmes for implementing Community policy in various sectors, is the FAST programme.

7. The main aim of FAST, a 5-year programme launched in 1979, is to establish long-term objectives and priorities in the Community's research and development policy and to ascertain the consequences of possible problems and conflicts on development over the long term. These findings can be used as a basis for proposing alternative guidelines for R&D policy with a view to solving problems or at least providing concrete ideas of how this could be done.

8. The programme focuses on three interdisciplinary areas :

- work and employment
- the 'information society'
- the 'biosociety'.

9. FAST uses a system of analysis incorporating different time-scales to permit the assessment of the consequences of Community R&D activities, specifically as regards

- possible consequences for work and employment (10-year time-scale)
- possible improvements in the transition to the 'information society' (20-year time-scale) and
- the investigation of the advantages brought by the 'biosociety' (30-year time-scale).

The general aim is to establish the connections between these three areas and the effects on, and changes in, the environment.

10. In 1983 Parliament will have the opportunity of studying the results of this first FAST programme. However, it can already be seen that we are now living in an 'information society'. Progress in micro-electronics has been (and continues to be) characterized by an explosive growth. Command of this technology is an absolute must for Europe if it is to avoid massive job losses. The FAST programme has shown further that the current discussion on the consequences of technology for employment, i.e. whether the result will be a net reduction, net increase or simply structural changes, is as far as it goes, based on a false premise. Loss of employment stems from a lack of competitiveness, which in turn is the direct consequence of not making sufficient use of technology. 'The others' produce consumer goods, some necessary, others perhaps not, faster, better and more cheaply with the aid of improved technology.

IV. Recommendations to the committee responsible

11. The Committee on Energy and Research asks the committee responsible to take account of the foregoing when formulating its position on extended action by the Community in the new technologies sector. Future activities must accord with earlier proposals and take into account that

- information technologies play a major role in determining economic development, as they help to increase productivity and competitiveness¹

¹ Motion for a resolution in the VERONESI report

- with rapid developments in information technology, there is a need for continuous support for basic research¹,
- the high levels of investment needed to carry out studies and research mean that international cooperation will be necessary¹,
- the setting of a precise, concrete European objective for the technology sector must be accompanied by the identification of those areas in which European industry and research bodies will have to perform well in future,
- a technological development may not and cannot be halted, but should be used to prevent unemployment and social tension¹,
- technological dependence leaves the Community open to blackmail²,
- research policy should also be used to help in coping with the transformation of society brought about by technological change²,
- the time is now ripe for a fundamental restructuring of research policy in Europe, for example, in order to make better use of scarce resources²,

Therefore

- large-scale research should be put on a European footing to make it more efficient, whereas small-scale programmes should be debureaucratized and decentralized²,
- new technologies such as microelectronics, data processing, marine research, space technology, transport, biotechnology and energy, all promising areas in which Europe can make its mark should be coordinated at the European level to ensure that national efforts do not result in competing activities and that national training policies are formulated with this aim in mind,
- a restructuring of the Joint Research Centre which could conveniently undertake and supervise a number of these tasks should take the greatest possible account of the demands made by the technological age,
- in future R&D programmes and in its activities, the Commission should in addition pay special regard to the possibilities and requirements of

¹ Motion for a resolution in VERONESI report

² Motion for a resolution in LINKOHR report

new technologies and, for example, enter into cooperation agreements with existing national research bodies and institutes; the creation of new research centres should however be emphatically rejected¹.

12. It will be clear from the foregoing that the Committee on Energy and Research is able to support the view that Member States should undertake tasks such as those set out in paragraph 2 of the motion for a resolution, inasmuch as they may be regarded as necessary.

The programmes referred to in paragraphs 4 and 6 should be the subject of intensive studies. The committee must advise against the establishment of new research centres, since significant elements have already been covered in several R & D programmes. The effect of new technologies on employment will be given special consideration when framework programmes for research, further JRC programmes and FAST programmes are discussed.

¹ Motion for a resolution in LINKOHR report

